



Military Mobilization Fact Sheet

for Federal Family Education Loan Borrowers

If your National Guard or Reserve unit has been called to active duty, or you are a regular, active-duty member of the Armed Forces who has been reassigned to another duty station, you may be eligible for benefits on any Federal Stafford, SLS, PLUS, and Consolidation loans you borrowed under the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP).

If you are still in school, contact the registrar and financial aid office at your school. Ask about dropping your classes, possible refunds, re-enrolling when you return, and any school policies that may affect you during and after your deployment.

You should also contact your lender to ask about an extension of your in-school status if you are ordered to active duty or reassigned for more than 30 days. During this extension (for as long as three years, including the time it takes you to resume enrollment after you return) you may not be required to make FFELP loan payments.

If your loan is in the grace period, contact your lender. The grace period is a 6-month period after you stop being enrolled at least half-time. During this period, no payments are required on your FFELP loan. If you are ordered to active duty or reassigned for more than 30 days during your grace period, you may be entitled to a military extension of that period. If you return to school at least half-time at the end of this extension, you are entitled to a new grace period when you stop being enrolled at least half-time again.

If your loan is in repayment or deferred, contact your lender about what options are available. You may qualify for a forbearance, which is a temporary postponement of payments for up to 15 months. You may also qualify for a military deferment if you have an outstanding FFELP loan made before July 1, 1993, or you had a balance on a FFELP loan when you

received another loan disbursed on or after July 1, 1993. If your income is reduced because of your deployment, ask your lender to help you determine if you qualify for an economic hardship deferment. During deferment periods, you are not required to make payments on your loan.

Ask your lender about interest on your loans during deployment. If you have a subsidized Stafford loan that is in in-school status or a grace period, or you are approved for a deferment, the government will pay the interest on your loan. You may not be required to make payments during your deployment, but you are responsible for all interest that accrues on your unsubsidized Stafford, SLS, or PLUS loans and the portion of your Consolidation loan that paid off your unsubsidized Stafford loans. During a forbearance, you are also responsible for interest on your subsidized Stafford loan. If you are responsible for accruing interest, you will have to make periodic interest payments or have your interest added to your loan (capitalized) at the end of your in-school, grace, or deferment periods.

Ask your lender and school about deployment documentation they may require. You may need to provide a written statement from your commanding officer or personnel officer, a copy of your official military orders, or a copy of your active duty military identification card. Your lender may also need your updated address, or the address of a friend or relative who can contact you, for future mailings with information about your loan.

If you need help locating your lender. You'll find information about your FFELP loans and your lender's name and contact information from the Department of Education's National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) at www.nslds.ed.gov or 800-4-FED-AID. You may also find information about your loans and links to online loan information on NSLP's website at www.nslp.org/loan.htm.